

IF IT HAPPENS
IT'S HERE

QUEER FADS OF BALL PLAYERS

Fullerton Says They Develop
Eccentricities More Violently
Than Other People.

BY HUGH S. FULLERTON.

Professional baseball players develop eccentricities more rapidly and more violently than any other class of people in the world, possibly excepting school teachers.

Mostly they run to the game they play, and their peculiarities center around that. And almost all of their cranks are about batting. Old Pietro Gladiatore Browning, the lamented, probably had more of those ideas than any one else. He used systems to keep his "lampbrushes," as he called his eyes, clear—such as smoking cigarettes, washing them out with rainwater and he was falling. Every time it rained in Louisville in those days the Old Gladiator stood with upturned face and let the rain wash his eyes out, and the next day he got "bingles." And Pietro could hit. He made his own bats and used different ones against different pitchers.

Odd One Shown by Peter.

But one of the oddest fancies he ever had was shown in Louisville one day. Pete was playing right field as usual—and he was intensely jealous of Sam Thompson, who was playing left for Philadelphia. Pete had seen Thompson hit in a series a few days earlier and he saw his peer as a slugger. Immediately he began to study Thompson's methods.

One afternoon at Louisville (Gaffney, who was unimpaired, noticed that every time Browning came in from the field he crossed clear from right to left, then paraded toward the plate and stepped on the third base as he came. Gaffney was annoyed because Browning was delaying the game and remarked: "Pete, what are you watching that way for? Why don't you come straight in from right?"

"I wanted to touch third base coming in," replied Pete.

"That for?" asked the surprised umpire.

"I don't know," said Pete. "But Thompson always does it."

Little Roy Thomas of Philadelphia is as quiet and sensible a little fellow as there is in baseball, but he, too, has an oddity. He refuses utterly to go to the plate without walking back of the umpire. He bats left-handed and parades back of the umpire and then goes to the plate. One day at Philadelphia Tim Hurst backed up against the grandstand and stood there as a joke on Thomas. The little fellow said nothing, but gave up his superstition for once, went to bat, and struck out.

Connor Had Queer Notion.

Big Roger Connor, who helped invent the game and is still hitting them high up and far away down in some little eastern league, with a couple of his grandchildren playing on the team, has a superstition about his bats. He cared for them as if they were his children and always kept a piece of glass and some sandpaper and a little bottle of oil in one of his bat bags so that he could escape and polish and oil his bats as he pleased.

One night in Boston I slipped up to Roger's room to have a chat with him and found him in bed. There was something I wanted to find out, so I went in and sat down on the edge of the bed to talk it over. I threw my hand down hard and came near breaking my back.

Rog was sleeping with half a dozen of his favorite war clubs, planning to drive some poor pitcher to the woods the next day.

AMERICA AHEAD IN SPORTS.

Our Boys Win at Athens, but Lose to the British Oarsmen.

It has been a great year in sports. P. H. Marriot did an automobile mile in 2:15 seconds at Ormond Beach, Florida, Jan. 26, and the records for two miles and 100 miles were lowered.

The Olympic games at Athens, which closed May 1, were an American triumph. Martin J. Sheridan scored 17.3 points as an all-round athlete for a team, which won first place. Charles M. Daniels, also an American, won the swimming championship, and later the English championship, which carried the world's title. W. J. Sherring of Canada won the celebrated Marathon road race of about twenty-five miles.

Grapple with the Metropolitan handicap May 10; Tokalon the Brooklyn handicap May 22; Spearminster the English Derby, May 30; Burgomaster the Belmont stakes, same day; Spearmint, the Grand Prix de Paris, June 10; Go Between the Suburban handicap, June 22, and Electioneer the Futurity, Sept. 1. Dan Patch lowered his own mile record, pacing, to 1:55 flat, Sept. 8.

E. P. Weston walked from Philadelphia to New York, eighty-six miles, in 23 hours 27 minutes, May 23; Cornell's eight won the four-mile intercollegiate rowing race June 23; five days later Harvard defeated Yale; Cambridge defeated Harvard Sept. 8, in England; W. J. Clothier won the American tennis championship in August; C. M. Daniels lowered the American 400-mile swimming record to 2 minutes 42.5 seconds, Sept. 14; Martin Sheridan increased the world's discus record to 135 feet 5 inches, Sept. 22, and Lieutenant Lahn, U. S. A., won the balloon race (sixteen entries) from Paris, Sept. 30.

In October the Chicago baseball team won the National and the Chicago White Sox the American league pennants. Wagner (French) won the Vanderbilt auto race Oct. 7, and on Oct. 14 the American team (White Sox) won the world's baseball championship.

Football was played according to the reformed rules, and there were less fatalities than in recent years. There is no champion. Yale and Princeton played a remarkable tie game Nov. 17, and the Navy defeated the Army Dec. 1. Columbia did not play.

Sept. 3 Joe Gans won the world's lightweight pugilistic championship from Battling Nelson in forty-two rounds, on a foul; Nov. 28 "Philadelphia Jack" O'Brien fought Tommy Burns for the world's heavyweight championship. There were twenty rounds, and the result was a draw.

THE HERALD'S SPORTING PAGE

UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM, UTAH CHAMPIONS 1906.



The above is the official photo of the University of Utah football team, which won the state championship for the past season, and which, on "dope," has as much right to the Rocky mountain championship as any other team in this section of the country. This team is without doubt the strongest aggregation ever turned out in the state. The players are, back row, beginning at left: Palm, Bryant, Coach Joe Maddock, Barton, Scranton, Manager "Jocko" Brown, Olsen, Dea Bannion, Pitt. Front row, left to right, McKenna, Russell, Brown, Varley, Fred Bannion, Ray, Anderson.

SILER WORLD'S BEST REFEREE

Career of Old Man Shows
Many Narrow Escapes
in Giving Decisions.

An argument is going the rounds over who is the greatest referee in the prize ring the world has ever seen. A man who signs himself "The Gothamite" speaks out for George Siler and in speaking of the veteran says:

He has been in the game since late in the sixties, about forty years I should judge. He started as a bantamweight and while in that class I have seen him defeat and knock out middle and heavyweights. The New York Clipper, at the time, always wrote of him as the "star of the east." He had a standing challenge in 1871, to fight any 100 to 100-pound man in the country. London prize rules. I saw him in 1872 win six consecutive boxing competitions at Seddons & Chambers' place at 20 West Houston street, and these against all comers. His last win was against Steve Taylor, a heavyweight, after which he was barred. In the winter of '73 and '74 he boxed fourteen weeks at the Grand opera house, New York, with Doc Lee Harris, the champion middleweight. This, I believe, is the longest boxing engagement at one house on record. The last time I saw him perform with the mits was in the winter of '81 at Paddy Ryan's benefit. His opponent that night was Mike Donovan, then champion middleweight, and now box instructor to the New York Athletic club.

In 1873 Siler and Billy Madden, Siler weighing less than 115 pounds, defeated the country meeting all comers, with Siler as the star. This is part of his boxing record, not including the years he spent double boxing the art.

There was never a game, more fearless man mixed up in the game than Siler. After he rendered his decision in the Jeffries-Sharkey fight at Coney Island a crowd of toughs fully 500 strong surged toward the exit of the ring intent on doing him bodily harm because they thought Sharkey was entitled to a draw. As George started to leave the ring one of the mob threw an empty beer bottle at him, which struck him on the knee. He looked the crowd over coolly and fearlessly, reached into his vest pocket, pulled out a cigar, lighted it, handed one to Billy Madden, the official timekeeper, and without the sign of a tremor or of fear strode boldly out of the ring.

"The fools will not know until tomorrow that Sharkey got licked," was all that he said.

Siler in Gotham.

Siler came back to Gotham the following month, refereed the Frank Erne-New York Jack O'Brien lightweight championship battle, and this despite the fact that Tom O'Rourke and others tried to stop him. When Pat Kilkin and Bob Ferguson fought in the open near Chicago the crowd which surrounded the ring was the toughest that ever gathered for a prize fight. The men were nearly three hours trying to get a man to perform the duties of referee, and Siler, who went there to report the fight, accepted the position simply for the benefit of the newspaper boys. In that fight the advantage of both principals broke into the ring in the second round and engaged in a free-for-all fight. At the call of time for the third round Siler, by some means which nobody has as yet been able to explain, drove the crowd out of the ring and had the fight continued. He feignedly was threatened with death by every man at the ringside was armed, but George went through with the fight and refused payment from the disgruntled mob after the fight.

In the battle at Mexico between Maher and Fitzsimmons the Maher people advised George not to referee, as the laws from New Mexico, all friends of Maher, were coming to kill him. Siler said:

"This looks like a job to beat Pitt. I am going to referee and will see to it that the best man wins, and it is up to the outlaws to make it my last public appearance."

Bat Masterson Ready.

Bat Masterson was there, and before George entered the ring asked him if he was fixed, adding that there was going to be some shooting. When Siler informed Masterson that he never owned or carried a gun, Bat said:

"I'll protect you by shooting down the first man who shoots you."

"I'll thank you, Bat, if you will shoot the man before he shoots me," was Siler's reply.

There are only a few instances of the man's fearlessness and nerve. Regarding the recent fight at Goldfield I have heard there were at least 100 of the best out-

CHECKERS

Checkerboard as Numbered for
Beginners.



Place black men on squares 1 to 14. Place white men on squares 21 to 32. Blacks always move first at the commencement of a checker game.

During the past week Hugh MacKean and J. B. Smith played their match for the championship of Utah. MacKean winning by 5 to 1 and 1 draw. The match commenced Thursday evening at 6:30. MacKean won the toss and chose the white men. Smith opened double corner and was the first to leave book play. After an hour's play Smith permitted an exchange which enabled MacKean to trade back and win the move. MacKean claims he would have eventually won with the "grip," anyway, by crowning his two single men, but could he have crowned those men without releasing his hold on his opponent's two single pieces? If the game is ever published each player can decide that for himself. MacKean admits that he was one of the hardest games he ever scored against any player.

After winning this game Smith took a balloon ride and dropped the next two Anrshire lassie and a cross) on familiar box losses the fourth game was a second double corner which MacKean, on beating play supposed to be sound. The fifth game Smith got back to earth and succeeded in drawing the game. The sixth game Smith got back to earth and succeeded in drawing the game. The seventh game Smith got back to earth and succeeded in drawing the game.

The following evening Smith won the sixth game of the match (an irregular), after two hours of play. The seventh game a Denver, went to MacKean, and the match was over.

Mr. MacKean is the only person who has a right to publish these games, and the only one that would be worth publishing. He will probably publish them for future occasions. The champion was at his best and made his opponent look like a novice, and a very green one at that.

All of the following games were played in the Herald tournament.

Game No. 280—Laird and Lady. H. L. Meade, black, vs. Bert Tius, Minneapolis, Minn., white.

11-15	12-27	7-11	22-24
23-25	23-25	9-5	7-10
8-11	17-22	11-16	32-32
22-27	23-28	5-1	10-7
3-13	12-16	17-18	27-28
17-24	20-21	10-7	7-10
10-17	8-22	2-11	23-18
21-14	24-24	14-9	10-7
15-18	22-25	19-2	31-26
24-20	24-19	1-10	7-10
3-8	23-30	16-20	24-22
18-15	23-18	10-7	16-7
6-10	30-32	11-16	18-14
16-6	21-26	7-11	11-16
36-22	26-23	22-17	16-11
17-24	20-24	18-22	17-13
30-14	14-9	17-14	11-15
13-17	18-14	22-27	19-9
35-21	15-19	14-10	7-2
25-16	14-22	19-15	6-9
28-25	23-18	10-7	2-7
15-18	31-26	20-24	4-8
27-23	19-15	16-22	15-9
	36-22	24-28	14-18
	18-14	3-7	19-24
	22-17		19-22

Game No. 281—Bristol. W. R. Kegerreis, Sheridan, Wyo., vs. A. T. Obney, East Liverpool, Ohio.

11-15	12-27	7-11	22-24
23-25	23-25	9-5	7-10
8-11	17-22	11-16	32-32
22-27	23-28	5-1	10-7
3-13	12-16	17-18	27-28
17-24	20-21	10-7	7-10
10-17	8-22	2-11	23-18
21-14	24-24	14-9	10-7
15-18	22-25	19-2	31-26
24-20	24-19	1-10	7-10
3-8	23-30	16-20	24-22
18-15	23-18	10-7	16-7
6-10	30-32	11-16	18-14
16-6	21-26	7-11	11-16
36-22	26-23	22-17	16-11
17-24	20-24	18-22	17-13
30-14	14-9	17-14	11-15
13-17	18-14	22-27	19-9
35-21	15-19	14-10	7-2
25-16	14-22	19-15	6-9
28-25	23-18	10-7	2-7
15-18	31-26	20-24	4-8
27-23	19-15	16-22	15-9
	36-22	24-28	14-18
	18-14	3-7	19-24
	22-17		19-22

Game No. 282—Laird and Lady. H. L. Meade, black, vs. Bert Tius, Minneapolis, Minn., white.

11-15	12-27	7-11	22-24
23-25	23-25	9-5	7-10
8-11	17-22	11-16	32-32
22-27	23-28	5-1	10-7
3-13	12-16	17-18	27-28
17-24	20-21	10-7	7-10
10-17	8-22	2-11	23-18
21-14	24-24	14-9	10-7
15-18	22-25	19-2	31-26
24-20	24-19	1-10	7-10
3-8	23-30	16-20	24-22
18-15	23-18	10-7	16-7
6-10	30-32	11-16	18-14
16-6	21-26	7-11	11-16
36-22	26-23	22-17	16-11
17-24	20-24	18-22	17-13
30-14	14-9	17-14	11-15
13-17	18-14	22-27	19-9
35-21	15-19	14-10	7-2
25-16	14-22	19-15	6-9
28-25	23-18	10-7	2-7
15-18	31-26	20-24	4-8
27-23	19-15	16-22	15-9
	36-22	24-28	14-18
	18-14	3-7	19-24
	22-17		19-22

Game No. 283—Bristol. W. R. Kegerreis, Sheridan, Wyo., vs. A. T. Obney, East Liverpool, Ohio.

11-15	12-27	7-11	22-24
23-25	23-25	9-5	7-10
8-11	17-22	11-16	32-32
22-27	23-28	5-1	10-7
3-13	12-16	17-18	27-28
17-24	20-21	10-7	7-10
10-17	8-22	2-11	23-18
21-14	24-24	14-9	10-7
15-18	22-25	19-2	31-26
24-20	24-19	1-10	7-10
3-8	23-30	16-20	24-22
18-15	23-18	10-7	16-7
6-10	30-32	11-16	18-14
16-6	21-26	7-11	11-16
36-22	26-23	22-17	16-11
17-24	20-24	18-22	17-13
30-14	14-9	17-14	11-15
13-17	18-14	22-27	19-9
35-21	15-19	14-10	7-2
25-16	14-22	19-15	6-9
28-25	23-18	10-7	2-7
15-18	31-26	20-24	4-8
27-23	19-15	16-22	15-9
	36-22	24-28	14-18
	18-14	3-7	19-24
	22-17		19-22

Game No. 284—Kelson. Same players as above.

10-15	2-8	16-19	35-22
23-18	25-23	15-5	7-3
12-16	14-22	19-23	11-15
31-27	24-19	27-18	2-7
16-20	11-16	15-22	1-5
17-24	16-24	14-10	31-27
10-16	16-24	1-14	22-26
25-21	17-10	17-10	7-11
9-14	15-15	22-26	24-23
18-9	30-14	3-6	27-18
5-14	2-7	25-30	19-23
22-17	21-7	6-2	11-15
5-12	18-11	14-27	24-22
23-25	25-21	10-7	15-18
			3-7

Kegerreis won.

Call at the Lyric bar, opposite p. o., for a Newhouse Skyscraper, a new drink invented by Max Florence and Leo Lovip.

PRIZES FOR TOURNAMENT

St. Louis Offers Bowlers \$20,000 at
A. B. C. Annual
Meet.

At a meeting of the officers and directors of the St. Louis National Bowling Tournament association, under whose auspices the national tournament will be held in this city March 16, 31, 1907, it was decided to offer, in addition to the regular prize money, which it is confidently expected will aggregate \$20,000, five special awards of \$100 each, as follows:

\$100 to the team of five men, the ages of whose members in the aggregate total them to be the youngest team competing.

\$100 to the team of five men whose members are the oldest.

\$100 to the team of five, the aggregate weight of whose members is the lowest of any team competing.

\$100 to the team of five whose members tip the scales at the highest figure.

\$100 to the city sending the largest team representation in proportion to the population of the city they represent.

Present at the meeting was Mr. G. H. Rostenberg, one of the vice presidents of the St. Louis association, who has just finished a tour of the north and northwest. He reports that in every city he visited he received assurances that the representation therefrom will be in every way of the greatest consistency with the strength of the bowlers.

He covered Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. The same is true, he says, of Kentucky and other southern states which he recently visited.

JEFF SETTLED BURNS.

At the close of his recent fight with O'Brien, Burns accused Jeffries of being unfair in calling it a draw instead of giving him the decision.

"You know that I should have had the title clear," he yelled.

"Title," sneered Jeff. "I'll award you any claim I have left to it right now and step into the ring and take it away from you again."

This argument is now said to be one of the reasons Jeff wants to get back into the ring again. He would like to give Burns a good thrashing.

Realizing that it is up to Jeffries to make a name for himself, Burns did not want to get the big fellow angry toward him and give in to his being the third man in the ring.

"Jeffries says he will fight Burns for a purse of \$50,000 if he beats me. There is one obstacle in the way of such a fight and I'm it. Just wait and see. I'm willing to bet as much as I did in the last fight," said O'Brien.

Auditorium Roller Risk for nice people.

Your Last Chance Is About Here!

These uncalled for Suits and Overcoats have caught the town. You can get them all this week on the same terms. Uncalled for Suits and overcoats at less than the tailor's wages. Overcoats \$10.00 up. Extra good value. Extra Pants for \$3.00 up. You can't duplicate them anywhere.

DANIELS, THE TAILOR, 57 W. Second South.

IF IT'S HERE
IT'S RIGHT

MAY STOP SIX DAY BIKE RACE

Claimed That Walthour Was
Paid \$3,000 for Working His
Sprints in Recent Grind.

New York, Dec. 23.—Because of the many cries of fraud, it is likely New York will never see another six-day bicycle race. A movement is being started to pass a city ordinance against the grind, and it bids fair to be successful. Nearly all who attended the race are loud in their denunciation of the actions of the management.

The original cry of fraud was based on the fact that every time Walthour tried to regain his lost lap some other rider fell, and thus offset the favorite's good work. It has